[23rd January 1964

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The rent is determined by the House Rent Controller, and they are all subject to the House Rent Control Act.

* 34 *Q.*—SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Kapaleeswarar Devasthanam has constructed shops in the North Mada Street, Mylapore; and

(*b*) if so, (i) the number of shops constructed, (ii) the cost of construction and (iii) the procedure adopted by the temple authorities in the matter of construction?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) (i) 11 Shops.

(ii) Rs. 25,538.

(iii) The works were executed departmentally after calling for tenders for purchase of materials and on labour contract.

SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : How were the shops let out?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They have been given to shopkeepers and the amount to be realised is Rs. 1,245 per mensem.

SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : My question has not been answered. How were the shops let out?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : They are let out to the shopkeepers who apply.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Are they given to the highest bidder or is any favouritism shown in this?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Unless in these matters a specific question is put as to how a particular shop has been let out, it will be impossible for Government to give information.

Fire accidents

* 35 *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR (on behalf of Sri K. S. Abdul Wahab) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of fire accidents in the State during the year 1962–63;

(*b*) the number of residential houses affected; and

(*c*) the relief measures taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : (*a*) 2,491.

(*b*) 1,191.

(*c*) A sum of Rs. 4,08,810·36 nP. was spent by way of grant of cash relief to the victims of the fire accident.